

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7444

UNCLAS MONTREAL 478

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJ: ICAO COUNCIL MEETING APRIL 14 (C/OB 87/15)

REF: A. MONTREAL 451, B. MONTREAL 356

1. ITEMS ONE, THREE, FOUR, FIVE, SEVEN AND NINE ROUTINE.
2. SECOND ITEM, DATE ON WHICH PRESIDENT-ELECT WILL TAKE OFFICE (REF MONTREAL 451), USREP REPORTED THAT INFORMALLY COUNCIL HAD ARRIVED AT A CONSENSUS THAT KOTAITE SHOULD CONTINUE AS SECGEN UNTIL LAMBERT TAKES UP HIS FUNCTIONS. MADE STATEMENT THAT DURING DISCUSSIONS SOME COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPRESSED HOPE THAT TRANSITION WOULD TAKE PLACE ASAP. USREP THEN MADE THIS A FORMAL PROPOSAL. LAMBERT TOLD COUNCIL HE HAD ASKED HIS GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE HIM TO TAKE OVER AS SECGEN AUGUST 1, 1976. ITALY REP POINTED OUT THAT TERM OF PRESENT SECGEN EXPIRES JULY 31. IF TRANSITION NOT MADE BY THEN COUNCIL WILL HAVE TO EXTEND KOTAITE, SECGEN TERM. PRESIDENT COUNCIL STATED THAT US PROPOSAL ENCOMPASSED AN EXTENSION IF ONE BECAME NECESSARY. (THIS ANGERED USREP AND OTHERS BUT NO ONE SPOKE.) PRESIDENT THEN STATED THAT EXACT DATE OF TRANSITION WOULD BE GIVEN TO COUNCIL DURING MAY/JUNE SESSION.

3. UNDER ITEM 6 (CWP 6342) COUNCIL WORK PROGRAM FOR NEXT SESSION A MAJOR PROBLEM WAS INTRODUCED BY PRC. IT IS REPORTED

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SEPTTEL.

4. UNDER ITEM 8, JSC WORK PROGRAM WAS APPROVED BUT PRES/COUNCIL ANNOUNCED THAT THERE ARE THREE PARTICIPANTS WHO STILL HAVE NOT APPROVED INCREASE IN DANISH CEILING. (REF MONTREAL 356)

5. UNDER OTHER BUSINESS SECGEN MADE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT QUEBEC PROVINCE MINISTER OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS WILL GIVE FORMAL DINNER FOR OUTGOING COUNCIL/PRESIDENT MAY 17, AND MAYOR OF MONTREAL FORMAL DINNER ON MAY 27. HE THEN MOVED INTO A DELICATE QUESTION REGARDING COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, SINCE COUNCIL HAD REQUESTED AN ORAL REPORT BEFORE THE CLOSE OF SESSION. FYI: CANADIAN REP ASKED FOR CHAIRMANSHIP OF WORKING GROUP TWO YEARS AGO IN ORDER TO GET BENEFITS FOR CANADIANS ON SECRETARIAT STAFF. HE IS BUILDING A LITTLE EMPIRE AND NOW WANTS THE WORKING GROUP TO BE UPGRADED TO THE STATUS OF COMMITTEE. SINCE ICAO IS NOW UNDER THE COMMON SYSTEM AND THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, THE WORK OF THE WORKING GROUP WILL BE MUCH LESS AND THERE IS EVEN LESS REASON TO ELEVATE IT THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. END FYI. AT LAST SESSION LEBANON REP BROUGHT UP QUESTION OF ELEVATING WORKING GROUP TO COMMITTEE. (THIS WAS PART OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE CLICK AND IT WAS GENERAL KNOWLEDGE THAT IT WAS DONE AT INSTIGATION OF CANADA). IN REPORTING TO COUNCIL, SECGEN CITED HISTORY OF QUESTION IN 1965, 1969, AND 1973 WHEN COUNCIL HAD DECIDED TO LEAVE THE STATUS AS WORKING GROUP. THE SYG'S CONCLUSION WAS THAT IT SHOULD BE LEFT AS WORKING GROUP. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION.
HARPER

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